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Ms. BERKELEY and Mr. HONDA changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mr. BOYD, Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky and Mr. SANDLIN changed their vote from "present" to "nay."

Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma and Mr. TURNER changed their vote from "present" to "yea."

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 78 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 78

Resolved, That it shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of Wednesday, March 7, 2001, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules relating to the following measures:

(1) The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 31) expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the importance of organ, tissue, bone marrow, and blood donation and supporting National Donor Day;

(2) The bill (H.R. 624) to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote organ donation; and

(3) The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 47) honoring the 21 members of the National Guard who were killed in the crash of a National Guard aircraft on March 3, 2001, in south-central Georgia.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST) pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Yesterday, the Committee on Rules met and passed this resolution, providing that it shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of Wednesday, March 7, for the Speaker to entertain motions to suspend the rules relating to the following measures: The concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 31, expressing the sense of Congress regarding the importance of organ, tissue, bone marrow and blood donations and supporting National Donor Day; the bill, H.R. 624, to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote organ donation; and the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 47, honoring the 21 members of the National Guard who

were killed in the crash of a National Guard aircraft on March 3, 2001 in south-central Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution allows us to consider three important bills today under the expedited suspension procedure.

I must stress we have had several days to examine these bills, and they have been on the floor schedule for some time and they are noncontroversial. They are also important pieces of legislation.

We recently celebrated National Donor Day to encourage people to become organ donors. Today we will pass legislation to promote National Donor Day and help States organize their organ donor programs.

We will also honor, unfortunately, 21 members of the National Guard who died last week in the line of duty.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this rule and urge my colleagues to do the same. By passing this rule, we will improve organ donation programs and hopefully save some more lives.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Democrats have no objection to this rule, which will allow the consideration of three bills under suspension today. Those bills include a concurrent resolution honoring the 21 members of the Virginia National Guard who were killed in a plane crash on March 3. I know firsthand how important the National Guard is to our national defense, and the tragic and untimely death of these fine Americans is tribute to the dedication and selfless service so many Americans make each year through their service in the National Guard.

The rule also permits the consideration of measures designed to promote organ donation, something Democrats on the Committee on Rules know about through the brave testimony of our ranking member, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY).

However, Mr. Speaker, I must take a moment to express our grave concerns about what may happen in the Committee on Rules some time later today. I am referring to the rule the Committee on Rules may report on the tax bill and how whether the majority will deny Democrats of all stripes the opportunity to offer alternatives to the Republican tax bill.

Mr. Speaker, we must object in the strongest possible terms to any plans the majority may have to cut off the ability of Members to offer one or more substitutes to this bill.

Mr. Speaker, not only are we going to consider a tax bill of huge proportion and consequences without the ability to offer alternatives, we are going to consider it without the benefit of having debated a budget which would place this tax cut in context

with the other matters this government funds.

We are going to consider a tax cut without fully understanding what its implications are on the rest of the Federal budget. So not only have we not received a budget from the new President, we have no congressional guidelines in place to help the Members of this body determine which priorities are more important.

Is it cutting taxes a lot, some or not at all? Is it paying down the national debt, which, I remind my colleagues, is a debt that is collectively owed by all the people of our great Nation?

Is it funding education, improving our schools, reducing class size or funding new teachers? Is it providing a real Medicare prescription drug benefit for our seniors, shoring up Social Security and Medicare or improving our national defense forces? No one knows the answer to those questions, Mr. Speaker.

Democrats in this House are very concerned that the Republican majority seems to not be concerned in the least that we are blindly proceeding down a path we have been on once before.

Mr. Speaker, I would just remind my colleagues, most of whom were not Members when we last considered a tax cut of these proportions, of the old adage, the definition of insanity is repeating the same actions and expecting different results. There are many of us here who fear we will see the same results as we saw after the passage of the 1981 tax bill.

Mr. Speaker, I support this rule, but Democrats on the Committee on Rules and in the Caucus at large want to go on notice right now that we believe it is imperative, if we are not to proceed in regular order in this body, that our Members be given a chance to be heard. All this talk of bipartisanship is meaningless, Mr. Speaker, if there are no actions behind the words.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to remind my colleagues that this rule is not about a tax cut.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair

announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING IMPORTANCE OF ORGAN, TISSUE, BONE MARROW AND BLOOD DONATION AND SUP- PORTING NATIONAL DONOR DAY

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 31) expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the importance of organ, tissue, bone marrow, and blood donation and supporting National Donor Day.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 31

Whereas more than 70,000 individuals await organ transplants at any given moment;

Whereas another man, woman, or child is added to the national organ transplant waiting list every 20 minutes;

Whereas despite the progress in the last 15 years, more than 15 people per day die because of a shortage of donor organs;

Whereas almost everyone is a potential organ, tissue, and blood donor;

Whereas transplantation has become an element of mainstream medicine that prolongs and enhances life;

Whereas for the fourth consecutive year, a coalition of health organizations is joining forces for National Donor Day;

Whereas the first three National Donor Days raised a total of nearly 25,000 units of blood, added over 4,000 potential donors to the National Marrow Donor Program Registry, and distributed tens of thousands of organ and tissue pledge cards;

Whereas National Donor Day is America's largest one-day organ, tissue, bone marrow, and blood donation event; and

Whereas a number of businesses, foundations, health organizations, and the Department of Health and Human Services have designated February 10, 2001, as National Donor Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) supports the goals and ideas of National Donor Day;

(2) encourages all Americans to learn about the importance of organ, tissue, bone marrow, and blood donation and to discuss such donation with their families and friends; and

(3) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to conduct appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for organ, tissue, bone marrow, and blood donation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 31.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 31, a resolution regarding the importance of organ, tissue, bone marrow and blood donation and supporting National Donor Day. I want to commend my colleague, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. THURMAN), for her work on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 31 recognizes the critical need for increased organ donation and acknowledges the success of past National Donor Days. The resolution expresses congressional support for the goals and ideas of National Donor Day, and it encourages all Americans to learn about the importance of organ, tissue, bone marrow and blood donation.

I am pleased that the Health and Human Services Secretary, Tommy Thompson, has recognized the serious nature of this growing problem and stated that improving organ donation is a priority for his first 100 days in office. Secretary Thompson has indicated that he will focus on ways to significantly increase organ donation in our country.

Mr. Speaker, we know that measures such as the resolution before us will help the Secretary in his efforts. In addition, we can all participate in efforts to promote organ donation in our own communities. By working together to increase organ donation, we can help save thousands of lives. I urge all Members to join me in supporting passage of H. Con. Res. 31.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the help of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), my ranking member, in this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be a cosponsor of this resolution and the Organ Donation Improvement Act, which we will also take up today.

I commend first and, most importantly, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. THURMAN) for her good work on this, as well as the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. BARRETT) highlighting the substantial unmet need for donated organs.

This resolution highlights the need not only for organ donation, but for tissue, blood and bone marrow donations as well.

There are 1,298 patients currently waiting for organs at northeast Ohio hospitals in my part of Ohio; 800 patients waiting for a kidney, 140 patients for a heart, 60 patients waiting for a lung.

A single donor can provide organs and tissue to more than 50 people in need.

March is Red Cross Month and the spotlight on this organization could not, Mr. Speaker, be more timely.

Despite 6.3 million units of blood collected from 4 million generous donors in the year 2000, blood supplies are at a record low across our country. Awareness is the first critical step in addressing the country's life-saving donation needs. The resolution of the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. THURMAN) makes Congress a leader in this awareness campaign.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be a cosponsor.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA).

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) for yielding the time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I want to add my strong support to H. Con. Res. 31, a sense of the Congress resolution supporting National Donor Day.

I want to congratulate the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. THURMAN), my colleague who introduced this, and I want to congratulate the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), who brought it forward to the House.

Every family hopes that if one of its members becomes seriously ill, medical science will be able to provide a miracle and restore their loved ones to a healthy and rewarding life. Medical science has been able to do exactly that over the past decade for hundreds of thousands of families with loved ones suffering from diseases and injuries that affect the heart, the kidney, pancreas, lungs, liver or tissue.

Transplantation of organs and tissues has become one of the most remarkable success stories in medicine, now giving tens of thousands of desperately ill Americans each year a new chance at life.

But sadly, this medical miracle is not yet available to all in need. Waiting lists are growing more rapidly than the number of organs and tissues that are being donated. There are more than 70,000 individuals awaiting organ transplants at any given moment, and despite the fact that almost every one who is a potential donor, more than 10 people each day die because of a shortage of donor organs.

Currently, 2,566 men, women and children from the greater metropolitan area are on waiting lists hoping for an